

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are now present in this application.

The specification and claims 1-5, 7, 9 and 10 have been amended, and claims 11-20 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The drawings stand objected to under 357 CFR 1.83(a). The Examiner alleges that “either one of the perimeter surface of the body and the incline surface of the striking plate including an annular groove, and the other of the inclined surface of the body and the inclined surface of the striking plate includes an annular flange received in the annular groove providing accurate positioning” is not shown. It is respectfully submitted, however, that Figs. 9 and 10 show a combination of an annular groove 14 with an annular flange 22, and a combination of an annular flange 12 with an annular groove 23. Accordingly, every feature of the invention specified in the claims is shown in the drawings. Reconsideration and withdrawal of any objection to the drawings are respectfully requested.

The disclosure stands objected to for certain informalities. In view of the foregoing amendments, in which the Examiner’s helpful suggestions have been followed, it is respectfully submitted that these objections have been addressed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of any objection to the disclosure are respectfully requested.

Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that all claims particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the instant invention.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC 112, second paragraph rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4, 6 and 10 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Igarashi, U.S. Patent 4,252,262, in view of Oelgoetz et al., U.S. Patent 6,138,895. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 7-9 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Igarashi and Oelgoetz et al., in view of Chen U.S. Patent 5,871,408. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Aizawa, U.S. Patent 5,697,855, in view of Oelgoetz et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 of the present application recites a method for manufacturing a golf club head comprising the steps of exerting a predetermined force to the striking plate to tightly embed the striking plate in the opening of the body. This claim further recites moving a rotating pin along the engaging area between the striking plate and the body in order to proceed with the friction welding, with the predetermined force exerting on the striking plate.

In contrast, neither Igarashi nor Aizawa discloses the steps of exerting a predetermined force to the striking plate, or friction welding the body and striking plate, with the predetermined force exerting on the striking plate. The Examiner has recognized that Igarashi does not have at least the movement of the rotating pin and he has turned to the secondary references to Oelgoetz et al. This reference as well as the other reference to Chen fails to overcome the deficiencies of the primary references. First, it is questioned whether one of ordinary skill in the art would turn to the teachings of Oelgoetz et al. Without the teachings of the present invention in hand, a skilled artisan could not conceive of using these teachings. Nonetheless, independent claim 1 sets

forth other distinctions which are not found in the utilized prior art. As such all rejections should now be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the prior art utilized by the Examiner fails to teach or suggest the method of independent claim 1, as well as its dependent claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC 103 rejections are respectfully requested.

Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

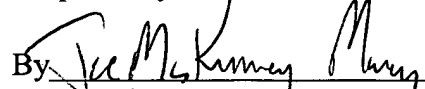
Because the additional prior art cited by the Examiner has been included merely to show the state of the prior art and has not been utilized to reject the claims, no further comments concerning these documents are considered necessary at this time.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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